REMARKS

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under §103 on the basis of McCurdy '697 and Yamaguchi '598. The independent claims have been amended to better define the present invention over the cited references. Applicants traverse this rejection because the cited references do not disclose or suggest, alone or in combination, the consistency among the plural destination databases being maintained by permuting journals with the transaction identification information. The references also do not disclose or suggest obtaining journals as update results from plural source databases by multiple transactions.

Fig. 2 of Yamaguchi discloses two transactions (A, B) being performed. The reference teaches that transaction A can write update information to the main storage unit and to the external storage unit 206, during the synchronization starting status. However, transaction B is prohibited from writing to the external storage unit at this time. It is only after the cancellation of the synchronization in progress status that transaction B is permitted to access the data cache, and is allowed to write data into the main storage area and the externals storage unit C (see paragraph [0045]). Thus, Yamaguchi teaches that only one transaction is processed at a time.

In contrast, even when two transactions (T1, T2) are performed, both transactions are operated in parallel in the present invention (see, e.g., Fig. 18). In other words, obtaining journals as update results from plural source data bases are done by multiple transactions, as described in claims 1, 3 and 5. For at least this reason, these and their respective dependent claims are allowable over the cited references.

Further, in Yamaguchi, consistency between external storage units C and C 206 is maintained by writing the data of one update of one transaction into two databases (external storage units C and D) that share the same data. In the present application (as shown in Fig. 18, for example), in contrast, consistency among the destination databases is maintained, even when the source databases are different from each other for an update of one transaction, by permuting journals with the transaction identification information, and distributing the database to the destination database according to the transaction identification information. In this manner, the performance of the same transaction as in the journal obtaining side (source) when rearranging the journal is enabled. This feature is also not disclosed or suggested in the references. For this reason also, the present invention is believed to be allowable over McCurdy and Yamaguchi.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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